

## Gallaudet Fact—

**Q.** New admissions standards and higher overall numbers meant major changes to Gallaudet's student body in fall 2009. How did this affect Dean's List numbers, and how did those numbers compare to past years?

Answer on page 4.

### Supporting Haiti

The Gallaudet community extends its thoughts and prayers to the people of Haiti following the devastating January 12 earthquake. The Bison have mobilized to support relief efforts and raise awareness, and opportunities to assist quake survivors continue to grow. Check the University home page for updated news and ways to get involved.

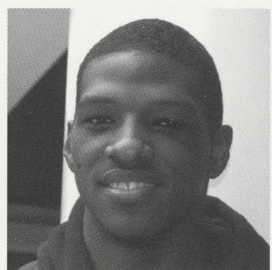


President Alan Hurwitz (right) and students Matthew Moore (left) and Vince DiMare take a break from clean up activities along Florida Avenue that they undertook as a service project in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 18. "This is a small way to honor the memory of Reverend King," said Dr. Hurwitz.



Nancy Goodman (right), director of the Financial Aid Office, is congratulated for 30 years of service to Gallaudet by Enrollment Management Services Dean Margery Miller at Enrollment Services' December 18 holiday party. A reception was held on December 16 for Goodman, who retired from the University last month.

## IN THIS ISSUE



### Roving Reporter

Tony Tatum's New Year's resolution is to help take Gallaudet's basketball team to the playoffs.



Fulbright scholar Karla Jael Sanchez Toral came to Gallaudet to study bilingual and bicultural education.



Janice Mitchell is recognized for 40 years of service to Gallaudet.

On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff  
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## President Hurwitz announces cabinet members, begins term

**D**r. T. Alan Hurwitz officially assumed his duties as the tenth president of Gallaudet University on January 1.

Following the announcement of his appointment on October 18, Hurwitz immediately got to work becoming oriented to Gallaudet and its community. A busy week-long visit in November brought Hurwitz and his wife, Vicki, to meetings, luncheons, and classes to jump-start their awareness of their future home. "The saying 'hit the ground running' is insufficient to describe my week," Hurwitz wrote to students, faculty, staff, and teachers following the visit. "You're sending me away at jet speeds, propelled to circle back, to pick up where we all leave off."

Hurwitz resumed his preparations for the presidency again in December when he announced the 11-member President's Cabinet that will work closely with him during his time at the helm of the University. The group, which is listed in its entirety on the [president.gallaudet.edu](http://president.gallaudet.edu) website, is charged with fulfilling Gallaudet's mission. The new president acknowledged the momentous commitment of his key players in an email to the campus: "Each Cabinet member deserves the thanks of the University (and has my personal thanks), for his/her willingness to serve," Hurwitz wrote. "Their appointments to the Cabinet are a reflection of the contributions they have made, and will continue to make to the University, as we work together to ensure success for the students of Gallaudet University."



Dr. T. Alan Hurwitz

The new president's public address to the campus was the January 21 State of the University address. In that speech, he outlined his vision for Gallaudet. More information on the address and Hurwitz's first weeks on the job will be forthcoming in *On the Green* and campus emails. ■



### Students explore Gallaudet's past through a female lens.

(From left) Student Stephanie Johnson, alumna Janie Golightly, and student Lili Crosby-Wilding show the vook—a booklet and DVD—that their "Deaf Women's Studies" class produced. Johnson and Crosby-Wilding researched Golightly's experience at Gallaudet for their contribution to the project. (Go to page 2 to read more about the project.)

## Honorary degree, professor emeritus recipients announced

**T**he Board of Trustees has voted to award honorary doctorate degrees to Dr. Nancy S. Grasmick, G-'65, and to Dr. Robert G. Sanderson, '41, on May 14 during Gallaudet's 141st Commencement exercises.

The trustees also voted to award the distinguished status of professor emeritus to Dr. Donald Ammons, '74, Dr. Barbara Bodner-Johnson, Dr. Judith Johnson, '58, PhD '83 (posthumously), and Dr. Thomas Jones. Professor emeritus is an honor bestowed by the faculty in recognition of outstanding service and contributions to the University. These exemplary educators will also be recognized at Commencement.

### Honorary degrees

Grasmick is the first female state schools superintendent in Maryland history, a position she has held since 1991, making her the longest serving state schools superintendent in the nation. Under her leadership, Maryland's public school system was ranked first in the nation last year by

*Education Week*, American education's newspaper of record. She received her master's degree in deaf education from Gallaudet and her doctorate from Johns Hopkins University. She began her career as a teacher of deaf children at the William S. Baer School in Baltimore, Md., and over the years she has proven to be a strong advocate for students who are deaf and hard of hearing. Her appointments include the President's Commission on Excellence in Special Education. Grasmick has received many awards for her visionary leadership, including the 2009 Presidential Citation Award from the National Association of School Resource Officers, the 2009 Award of Appreciation from the Education Committee of the Maryland Chapter of the NAACP, and in 2008 she received the National PTA Life Achievement Award for her exemplary advocacy on behalf of children. Grasmick was inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame in 2004, and in 2005

*continued on page 4*



## International Fulbrights meet president and provost



Dr. Davila stands with international Fulbright scholars (from left) Martin Musengi of Zimbabwe, Karla Jael Sanchez Toral of Mexico, and Rita Fankam of Cameroon at a December 1 lunch.

International Fulbright scholars studying at Gallaudet met for lunch with President Davila and Provost Weiner on December 1. The meeting came at the midpoint on campus for some of the fellows and an ending point for others.

The students and teachers studying on Kendall Green for the 2009-2010 academic year include Martin Musengi, a lecturer in the Special Education Department of Great Zimbabwe University in the city of Masvingo, who was a visiting research scholar during the fall semester to investigate how Zimbabwe Sign Language and a spoken written language can be used in a bilingual education program; Karla Jael Sanchez Toral, a teacher of deaf students from Mexico, who is pursuing graduate studies in bilingual and bicultural deaf education; and Rita Fankam, a teacher at the National Advance School of Public Works in Yaounde, Cameroon, who is a graduate-level researcher working with the American Sign Language and Deaf Studies Department. Also visiting campus, but not at the gathering, were Vincenzo Speranza, a graduate student from Italy,

and Ronan Dunne, an undergraduate from Ireland.

Gallaudet has a strong connection to the Fulbright program. It has been recognized as a top producer of Fulbright fellows and recently launched an office and website [fulbright.gallaudet.edu](http://fulbright.gallaudet.edu), dedicated to the semester- and year-long grants for students and teachers. The office was a joint project of Dr. Weiner and Graduate School and Professional Programs Dean Carol Erting. The two collaborated with Dr. Ceil Lucas, a professor in the Department of Linguistics, who founded a Gallaudet-affiliated Fulbright in Italy and later in Ireland.

The point of contact for all visiting research scholars and graduate students is Gallaudet Research Institute Research Associate Senda Benaissa, who also attended the lunch. Dr. Beth Benedict, professor in the Department of Communication Studies, is responsible for undergraduate Fulbrights. Dr. Susan King, director of Graduate School enrollment, developed the website. ■



## Bison Roundup

### Gallaudet women's basketball profiled on ESPN.com

The women's basketball team is off to its best start in over a decade. The Bison have dominated at home, with a 7-1 record as of January 11, and have won more conference games (three) this season than the past six seasons combined. The success grabbed the attention of ESPN, which profiled the team on its website, [www.espn.com](http://www.espn.com).

The story, titled "Sign of Success," ([sports.espn.go.com/ncw/news/story?id=4803329](http://sports.espn.go.com/ncw/news/story?id=4803329)) delves into the success Coach Kevin Cook and the Bison are having in his third season of coaching at Gallaudet. The eight wins earned by the Buff and Blue thus far this season are the most in 11 years. The feature also shows how Cook overcame personal challenges. Juniors Easter Faafiti (Pittsburg, Calif.), Nukeitra Hayes (Anderson, Ind.) and Brittainy Payne (Pine Hill, N.J.) are quoted in the story.

### 50-year celebration for Gallaudet swimming set

The Athletics Department held a 50-year celebration of the swimming program. With a dinner on January 23, in "Ole Jim." The next day, the Bison hosted Hood College at the Field House in the final home meet of the season, where Gallaudet paid tribute to its seniors. Gallaudet coach Bill Snape, now in his sixth year, called the event "a tremendous opportunity to honor past, present, and

future Gallaudet swimmers with a good time."

### Luis Gendive named Gallaudet soccer head coach

The Athletics Department is proud to announce that Luis Gendive is the new men's soccer head coach. Gendive takes over the part-time position from Larry Musa. "Coach Gendive brings over 20 years of coaching experience to Gallaudet. He is a great teacher and a fundamental coach. He is highly motivated and ready to revamp our men's soccer program," said Athletics Director Michael Weinstock. "We thank coach Musa for his time over the past three seasons leading the program."

### Bison support Haiti

On the day after a severe earthquake hit Port-au-Prince, Haiti, the Bison mobilized to help. At the January 13 men's basketball game against Hood College, players, fans, and officials all observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims of the quake before the game began, and athletics staff collected monetary donations. At the January 20 double header against the men's and women's teams of Wesley College, the department elected to dedicate all proceeds to benefit quake survivors. All funds will go to the American Red Cross. ■

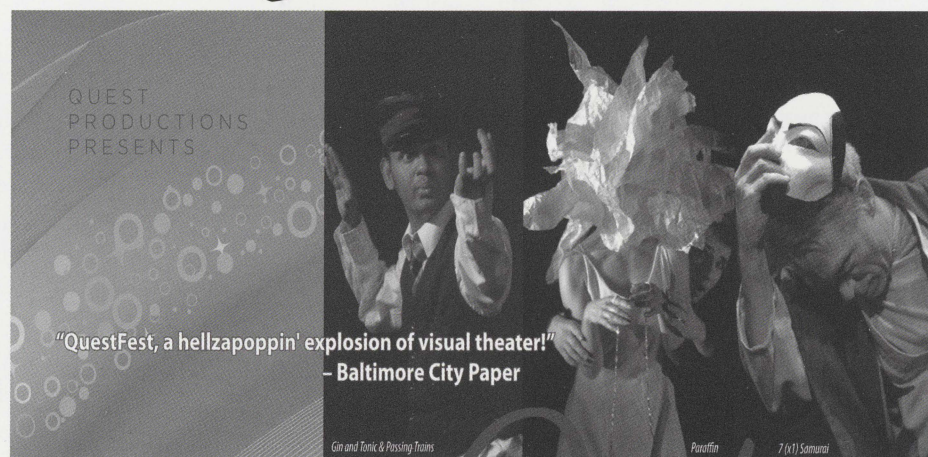
## Students explore alumnae history

Inspired by the HBO documentary "Iron Jawed Angels," chronicling suffragist Alice Paul's efforts to win the right to vote for women in 1929, students enrolled in the "Deaf Women's Studies" class for the fall semester embarked on an exciting research project to explore Gallaudet's past through a female lens.

On October 22, alumnae who were on campus for Homecoming to celebrate class reunions were interviewed about their experiences as Gallaudet students. The panel was videotaped by Academic Technology. As a result of the students' research and the panel, a book—a booklet and a DVD—was created. At the end of the semester, the class hosted a party to celebrate the completion of this project.

Guests who attended the celebration included Abigail Newkirk, a docent at The Sewall-Belmont House, Paul's home and headquarters; and alumnae Janie Golightly, of the Class of 1969; Abigail Drake, undergraduate class of 1997 and graduate class of 1999, assistant director of alumni outreach and student programs in the Office of Alumni Relations; and Diana Gates, Class of 1975, Deaf Collection librarian in the University Library. ■

## Coming to Gallaudet



THEATRE MOVES. THEATRE MOVES YOU.

**MARCH 1-14, 2010**

[www.questfest.org](http://www.questfest.org)



## ON THE GREEN

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### Director of Marketing and Public Relations

George Flett  
**Publications Manager**  
Roz Prickett

**Editor & Photo Editor**  
Todd Byrd

**Writer & Photographer**  
Rhea Yablon Kennedy

### Contributors

Sam Atkinson  
Benjamin Baylor  
Don Beil  
Arlene B. Kelly  
Emily J. Noschese  
Darlene Prickett  
Carol Riddick  
Thelma Schroeder  
Tim Worthylake

### Photographers

Brittany Castle  
Hema Saylor  
Tim Worthylake

### Design/Production

Graphic Design & Production  
**Printing**  
BelJean Printing

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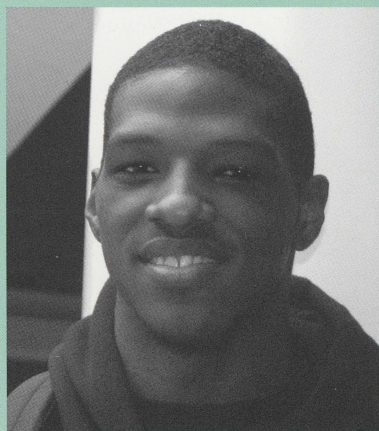
## Roving Reporter

What are your New Year's resolutions for 2010—for yourself and for Gallaudet?



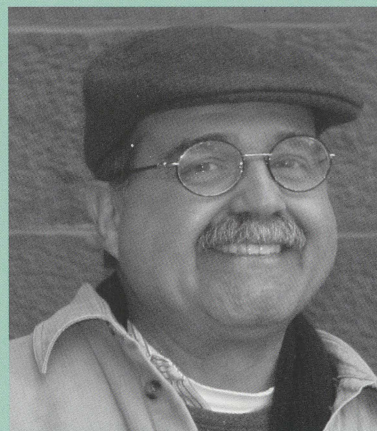
*My personal resolutions this year are the usual (eat better, exercise more), which never seem to last long. So, this year, I resolve to keep my resolutions! Our department's resolution for 2010 is to do everything we can to support the goals of our new president, Dr. Hurwitz. We are behind him 100 percent.*

Marti Edelman Kellner  
operations coordinator  
ASL Diagnostic Evaluation Services



*For school, friends, and family, I'll continue as I have been. For the basketball team, I want to work on my skills and get to the playoffs.*

Tony Tatum  
undergraduate student



*Because I love what I do, my resolutions include pursuing success and happiness in all aspects of my life, both personally and professionally (teaching, research, and journal/book editing), and collaborating to achieve the best for all my colleagues at Gallaudet.*

Jorge Santiago-Blay  
Department of Biology



*Due to having two terrific dogs who were homeless, my personal resolution is to give back by volunteering more often in efforts to help foster and rescue other homeless dogs. For work, I would like to have my students set up an organization similar to Green Gallaudet and work with them in improving efforts to make MSSD a "greener" place.*

Dorothy Wynne  
science teacher, MSSD

## Clerc Center Happenings

### Hop on board MSSD's 'World Dance Express'

By Susan M. Flanigan

The "World Dance Express," MSSD's 28th Winter Dance Concert, arriving on the Theatre Malz stage February 4 to 6, will introduce audiences to dances from India, West Africa, Japan, and the United States.

"We are thrilled to bring to the MSSD stage again this year outstanding professional dance companies. The concert gives our students an opportunity to experience professional companies close up. They see how the choreographers create dance numbers in movement, lights, and costumes," said Yola Rozynek, concert director and performing arts specialist. "Our guest artists inspire our students to reach for the stars in their own career plans."

"World Dance Express" will showcase MSSD dancers and guest dance companies from the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. The concert features a variety of dance genres, including hip hop, jazz, multicultural, modern, funk, emotional, Latino, West African, classical Indian, and traditional Japanese.

Come and enjoy this great opportunity to hop on the "World Dance Express." Tickets sell out quickly, so reserve now! (See details about ticket sales at right.) ■

## Ask Cousin Sally

Dear Cousin Sally,

I just got back from winter break and I'm catching up on the Gallaudet news. I was wondering: What's going on with the Gallaudet Strategic Plan? It's a new year and we have a new president. Perhaps we have something new related to planning, as well?

Wondering Where We're Going

Dear Wondering,

Thanks for your question! As it happens, I have been following the Gallaudet Strategic Plan (the GSP for short) with interest. Ever since I made a business plan for my dairy farm as a young cowgal, I've kind of had a thing for mapping what's next. In that line of work, it's crucial if you want to keep your barns structurally sound and your herd healthy.

Since the Board of Trustees approved the plan last May, administrators have been hard at work implementing it. They have also communicated about why Gallaudet needs this strategizing, and also listened to questions and concerns. President Hurwitz is on board with the plan, and has already met several times with Executive Director of Strategic Planning Richard Lytle.

The big focuses right now are Goal A (recruitment) and Goal B (retention). The people in charge of these goals are busy working on them, and those who took on Goal C (increased revenue and efficiencies), Goal D (academic program improvement), and Goal E (research and outreach) continue to make progress.

To find out more about the goals and strategies, guiding principles, and vision of the plan, strategically point your mouse to [planning.gallaudet.edu](http://planning.gallaudet.edu). You can also find the latest updates there. That site has a new logo declaring "Vision 2020: A bold vision for a bright future." Gives me goose bumps every time I read it. So do check that out, and plan to learn more as the semester goes on.

(Cousin Sally, a retired dairy farmer who now serves as On the Green's advice columnist, takes questions at [cousin.sally@gallaudet.edu](mailto:cousin.sally@gallaudet.edu).)

Model Secondary School for the Deaf

Theatre Malz

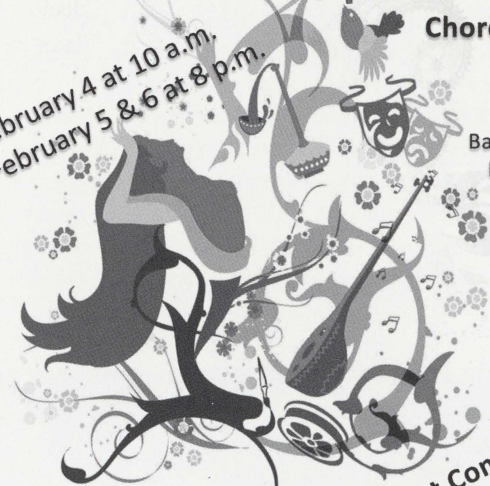
800 Florida Avenue, NE, Washington DC 20002-3695

### 28th Annual Winter Dance Concert "World Dance Express" 2010

February 4 at 10 a.m.  
February 5 & 6 at 8 p.m.

#### Choreographers

Adrian Saylor  
James Carter  
Wade Green  
Baranda Johnson  
Michelle Banks  
Yola Rozynek  
Fred Beam



#### Guest Companies

Nrityalaya School of Indian Classical Odissi Dance  
Eleanor Roosevelt High School Dance Company  
National Deaf Dance Theatre  
Flux Fusion Dance Group  
Ameena Patterson  
The Wild Zappers  
Shizumi Komodo Dance Troupe

#### Tickets:

\$5 – Adults  
\$4 – College students, senior citizens with I.D.  
\$3 – MSSD/KDES teachers and staff  
\$3 – School group rate per person

For ticket reservations, e-mail: [Yolanta.Rozynek@gallaudet.edu](mailto:Yolanta.Rozynek@gallaudet.edu)  
Voice: (202) 651-5031 Fax: (202) 651-5109



Rhonda Madden is recognized for 25 years of service to Gallaudet by her supervisors, Tutorial and Instructional Programs Coordinator Linda Williams (left) and Academic Advising Director Thelma Schroeder (right), and by her co-workers in the two units.



## Among Ourselves

Board of Trustees Vice Chair and Howard University professor of law **Frank Wu** has been named chancellor and dean of the University of California Hastings Cohort of the Law, effective July 1. Bruce Simon, chair of the Board of Directors of Hastings and co-chair of the Dean Selection Committee, is quoted in a December 28 article in *AsianWeek* as saying, "Frank Wu is a brilliant, world-class scholar and national leader in higher education. He was selected because of his powerful strategic vision for raising our 131-year-old law school to a new level. He has the experience and commitment to develop unprecedented private support for the College." In other news, the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* (Minn.) reported that Wu gave the keynote address for the Minnesota Department of Human Rights' 26th annual Human Rights Day Conference, held December 4 at Saint Paul RiverCentre. The article noted, "... Wu is a wonderful model of the professional human rights worker. ... His recognition by the Minnesota Department of Human Rights is a testimony to his competency and leadership."

The International Labour Organization (ILO) reported that **Marlee Matlin**, award-winning actress and Gallaudet trustee, was the special guest headlining a November 12 ILO panel discussion in Geneva, Switzerland, on the impact of the global economic crisis on women and men with disabilities. During her visit to Geneva, Matlin also visited a classroom of deaf children. The ILO is a United Nations specialized agency which seeks the promotion of social justice and internationally recognized human and labor rights.

**Dr. Cynthia Compton-Conley**, a professor in the Hearing, Speech, and Language Sciences Department, has received the Distinguished Achievement Award by the American Academy of Audiology for making significant contributions to the field. She will be recognized on April 15 during the academy's annual conference in San Diego, Calif. A news release by the academy states that Compton-Conley "is unquestionably best known for expanding awareness of assistive technology" for deaf and hard of hearing people, and as "an acclaimed expert in this specialty area, her counsel and advice are sought worldwide." The release also reports that Compton-Conley "has motivated and inspired students for decades and she is highly esteemed by colleagues for her contributions in the lab, the classroom, and the community."

In November, **Dr. Pia Taavila's** poem, "Yom Kippur," was published in *The Potomac Review*. In December, she gave a poetry reading in Ann Arbor, Mich., and on January 6 to 15 she attended the Key West Literary Seminar, studying with poet Dara Wier and attending readings by Richard Wilbur, Mark Strand, Rita Dove, and Maxine Kumin, among others. While in Key West, Taavila edited and revised her forthcoming poetry collection, *Tales From Vermont*.

The **Office of Enrollment Marketing** won in seven categories in the 2009 Ava Awards. The awards, which are administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals, recognize outstanding work by creative professionals in producing audio-visual materials and programs. Enrollment Marketing received platinum awards for its recruiters' presentation DVD in the Interactive, Recruitment, and Low Budget Under \$1,000 categories and gold honors for the same piece in the DVD Based and Multimedia categories. The office also received honorable mentions for its China Study Abroad video (New and Informational category) and Costa Rica: First Year Study Tour (in the Web/New Media/Other category).



President Davila recognizes Dr. Janice Mitchell for a momentous achievement on December 4: Tenured by the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, she has devoted 40 years of service to the University and the deaf community. Dr. Mitchell has broken new ground in instruction for deaf students learning German, served as the director of the German Exchange program, and chaired the department. She has been a strong proponent of study abroad, diversity initiatives, service-learning, curriculum design, teacher training and intercultural competence. For the Graduate School's Teacher Education program, she developed the first multicultural studies course and

text for future teachers. She has served on the board of the Captioned Media Project of the National Association for the Deaf and the U.S. Department of Education as an advocate for access by the deaf to multicultural captioned and video-department media. She has forged educational partnerships between Gallaudet, other universities, Germany, and D.C. public schools; with Banneker High School, where she helped create the first-ever Spanish language practicum by a deaf student, and with the School Without Walls for service-learning.

### Gallaudet Fact—

Answer: A total of 332 students (31 percent of the student body) qualified for the Dean's List with a grade point average of 3.25 or 3.5 or above, depending on class standing, for the 2009 fall semester. These numbers represent a significant increase from fall 2008 and 2007, when 279 (28 percent) and 224 (22 percent) of the students qualified, respectively.

## Honorary degrees

*continued from page 1*

Maryland's education headquarters was renamed the Nancy S. Grasmick State Education Building.

Sanderson has been an outstanding leader in the deaf community, in his home state of Utah and across the nation, for more than 60 years. After receiving his undergraduate degree from Gallaudet, he earned a master's degree in educational administration from what is now California State University, Northridge, and a doctorate in education from Brigham Young University. He became a vocational rehabilitation counselor for the Utah Division of Rehabilitation Services in 1965, and during his 20-year career there he rose to director of state programs for deaf people. Sanderson also taught at several colleges and universities in Utah. He was a member of Gallaudet's Board of Trustees from 1982 to 1994 and now holds the title of trustee emeritus. He was a charter member of Gallaudet's former Board of Fellows, which was established in 1970 as an advisory group, and served on the board until 1982. Sanderson also held Gallaudet's prestigious Powrie Vaux Doctor Chair of Deaf Studies for 1981-82. He has been active in a number of organizations, including the National Association of the Deaf, where he served as president and board member, the Utah Association of the Deaf, the Utah Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, the American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association, the National Advisory Group at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology, and the National Advisory Committee for the University of California at San Francisco Center on Deafness. In recognition of Sanderson's distinguished service, the State of Utah in 2003 named its statewide deaf services center The Robert G. Sanderson Community Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

### Professors Emeriti

Ammons joined the faculty in 1977 and retired in 2008 as a professor in the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. She had a reputation during her career as a dynamic teacher and mentor who had an uncanny knack for motivating her students. A pioneer in international education, Ammons established the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures' internship program in Central America, directed the University's Foreign Study Program, and directed the University's Center for Global Education for two years. She is also well known for her leadership in the world of sports. She was a member of the United States Olympic Committee, and has served as secretary-general and president of the International Committee for Sports for the Deaf.

Bodner-Johnson retired in 2008 as a professor in the Department of Education after 30 years of service to the University. She gained particular renown for teaching in the Family-Centered Early Education specialization of the master of arts degree program in deaf education, and for her work with doctoral students to foster the art of scholarly writing. A department chair for 10 years, Bodner-Johnson led a major curriculum revision that allowed the faculty to offer a

number of specializations. She served as vice chair of the University Faculty Senate, and as faculty liaison to the Board of Trustees. She contributed extensively to the Council on Education of the Deaf certification process through site visit reviews, and served on the editorial board or as a manuscript reviewer for the *Journal of Deaf Studies, Deaf Education, American Annals of the Deaf*, and the Gallaudet University Press. She is widely published; her work with Dr. Marilyn Sass-Lehrer, *The Young Deaf and Hard of Hearing Child: A family-centered Approach to Early Education*, is considered a seminal work. She is an accomplished photographer, and her newest book project is a photographic essay on families who are deaf.

The late Johnson taught at Gallaudet for 28 years, retiring in 2005 as a professor in the Department of Education. She distinguished herself as a teacher, mentor, and content area expert in the field of education of deaf children with multiple disabilities, and in classroom instruction in American Sign Language. Johnson was instrumental in the establishment of the department's multiple disabilities specialization. She taught in Project ACHIEVE, a departmental program that prepared professionals already working in schools for a degree and licensure. Johnson was a committed participant in departmental and University-wide actions, including program and curriculum development and revision, and reviews for accreditation. She also served as practicum coordinator for the department, as a Signed Communication Proficiency Interview evaluator, and as a member of the University Faculty Senate. She was a staunch advocate for closed captioning, and served as a consultant or expert witness in hearings and court cases involving deaf and hard of hearing students with multiple disabilities.

Jones, a professor in the Department of Education, began his career at Gallaudet in 1981 and retired in 2008. He was instrumental in the development of many of the master's teacher preparation courses within the department, and especially for courses pertaining to the preparation of teachers for students with disabilities and for parent education. He oversaw and implemented a major program revision, co-directed the teacher preparation program for parent-infant specialists, and pioneered online and distance education within the department. As master's degree program director for 13 years, Jones was responsible for the recruitment and retention of approximately 100 students. He served as chair of the former School of Education and Human Services, as a member of the University Faculty Senate, the University Budget Committee, and the Academic Affairs Budget Planning Committee. Jones held membership in the Council of Education of the Deaf, and for 10 years was its director of program evaluation. His work is widely published, and he served on editorial review panels and as a manuscript reviewer for the *Kappa Delta Pi Record* and the *Journal of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education*. Jones is also a nationally recognized expert on genealogy, and he was recently elected as a fellow of the American Society of Genealogists, a lifetime honor bestowed on a very limited number of individuals. ■